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August 14, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

Students across Texas returned to the classroom virtually this week, including my three. We took the two older ones, Brianna and Ryan, to Lubbock and got them ready to start their Junior and Freshman years at Texas Tech University. Dylan started his Junior year at Atascocita High School from home and will return to campus on August 24th.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



State Updates

DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard

## Texas Case Counts

# COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

### DSHS 7-DAY COVID DASHBOARD

As of August 7th, 2020

## CASES

# 474,524

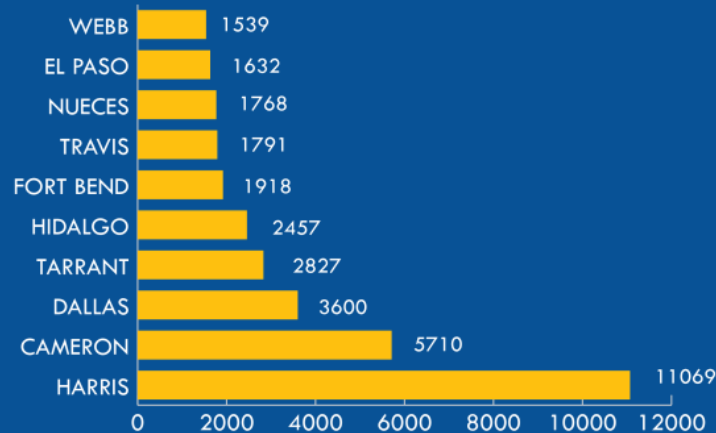
TOTAL AS OF 8/7

**+ 53,578**  
OVER PAST 7 DAYS

**+ 12.73%**  
OVER PAST 7 DAYS

## COUNTIES

Top 10 Counties with Highest #  
New Cases over Past 7 Days



[Visit the DSHS Coronavirus Case Counts Dashboard](#)

Comptroller Glenn Hegar Distributes \$909 Million  
in Monthly Sales Tax Revenue to Local Governments



## Comptroller Glenn Hegar Distributes \$909 Million in...

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced today he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$908.7 million in local sales tax allocations for August, 3.6 percent more than in August 2019. These allocations...

[Read more](#)

[comptroller.texas.gov](http://comptroller.texas.gov)

## Governor Abbott Secures Extension Of Federally-Funded COVID-19 Testing Sites In Harris County



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

## Governor Abbott Secures Extension Of Federally-Funded...

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has extended operations for four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County. Originally announced on August 7th, these testing sites...

[Read more](#)

[gov.texas.gov](http://gov.texas.gov)

## Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses Go on Sale Aug. 15



## Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses Go on Sale Aug. 15

AUSTIN - With the start of a new hunting season fast approaching, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is reminding hunters and anglers that current year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except the Year-from-Purchase All-Water...

[Read more](#)

[tpwd.texas.gov](http://tpwd.texas.gov)

# Arts Commission: Nominations Now Open for State Poet Laureate, Musician & Visual Artists

On behalf of the Texas State Legislature, the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is seeking nominations for the positions of 2021 and 2022 State Poet Laureate, State Musician, State Artist two-dimensional media (i.e., painting, photography), and State Artist three-dimensional media (i.e., sculpture).

All Texas citizens are encouraged to make nominations, and self-nominations are accepted. Citizens can nominate more than one artist. The nomination form and complete information are available online at <http://www.arts.texas.gov/nominate>. The deadline for Texas State Artists nominations is October 15, 2020.

All qualified nominees must be native Texans or five-year residents of the state. Candidates must have received recognition for high levels of excellence and success in their respective disciplines. They also must have received critical reviews in state, regional or national publications.

Chosen artists will join the company of previous state artists such as Willie Nelson, Earlie Hudnall, Jr., Carrie Fountain, Beili Liu and Kathy Vargas, and will receive statewide recognition. Texas State Artists also have the opportunity to participate in TCA events and promotions, including participation on TCA's Texas Touring Roster and other state initiatives in relation to their respective arts discipline.

"We are fortunate to have many outstanding artists in Texas, and we anticipate receiving numerous qualified nominations," said Gary Gibbs, executive director of TCA. "Being named a Texas State Artist is the Texas Legislature's highest honor for an artist, and it brings new career opportunities and recognition from the arts community and the general public."

TCA oversees the selection process for the four positions, in accordance with Chapter 3104 of the Texas Government Code. TCA issues the call for nominations, oversees an evaluation review process, and provides a list of finalists to the selection committee. The committee, composed of members appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, makes the final selections. The 87th Texas Legislature will make the appointments next spring when they are in session.

## About The Texas Commission on the Arts

The mission of the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is to advance our state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas. TCA supports a diverse and innovative arts community in Texas, throughout the nation and internationally by providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism and artist sustainability initiatives. For more information on TCA and its programs, please visit [www.arts.texas.gov](http://www.arts.texas.gov).

**CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE!**

## 7 Virtual Tours of Texas



### Top 7 Virtual Tours In Texas | Livestreams, Museums &...

Looking for things to do at home? Browse our top 7 virtual tours in Texas. Livestream broadcasts from ACL Live TV or checkout wildlife at the Texas State Aquarium.

[Read more](#)

## DSHS: COVID-19 Reminders for Staying Healthy & Safe

### TOGETHER HEALTHY TEXAS



1

Stay 6 feet apart from folks you don't live with. Wear a face covering in public.



2

Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available. Don't touch your face.

3

If sick, get tested and then stay home.



4

Clean and disinfect often-touched surfaces and objects.

5

Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away.



6

Remind friends and family of these steps and how we're all in this together!



For updates, info and testing sites, visit [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus).

COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line: 833-986-1919



Texas Department of State Health Services

Visit [211Texas.org](https://211Texas.org) or call 2-1-1, option 6, for help with food, health, housing and more.

8/10/20

## City of Houston & Harris County Updates

## Harris County Public Health Dashboard





Harris County  
**Public Health**  
Building a Healthy Community

## Mayor Turner Announces Second Virtual Town Hall Focused on Mental Health, Healing and Wellness



### Mayor Turner Announces Second Virtual Town Hall...

Mayor Turner Announces Second Virtual Town Hall Focused on Mental Health, Healing and Wellness Registration Now Open for Event with the H.E.R. Task Force August 13, 2020 -- Mayor Sylvester Turner and the Houston Health Equity Response (H.E.R.)

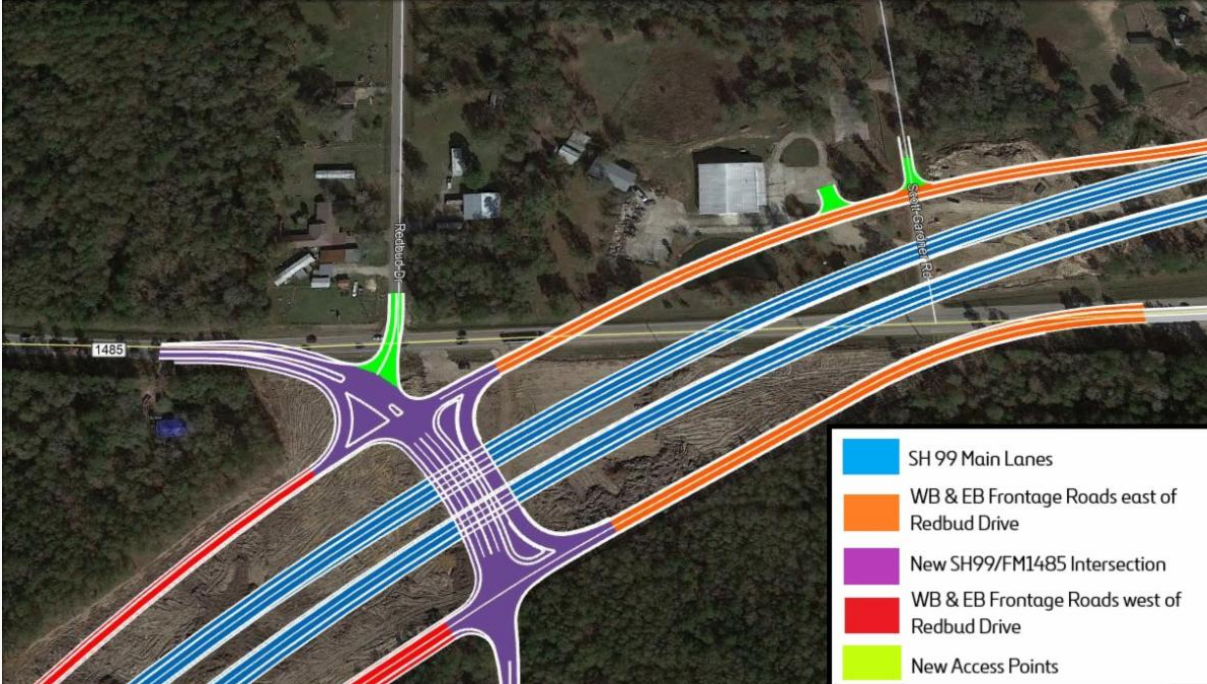
[Read more](#)

[www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov)

## HD 127 Updates

### FM 1485/SH 99 Intersection Traffic Impacts





Over the coming days, the Grand Parkway Infrastructure team will engage in a number of operations that will impact traffic in Baytown. Please see below for more details.

### Traffic Switches

Later this week, the team will be implementing 3 traffic switches to allow for the team to construct the new SH 99 main lanes.

- Overnight hours of Wednesday, August 12 - Motorists will be directed to travel on the new SH 99 eastbound frontage road between Lee Drive and Business 146.
- Overnight hours of Friday, August 14 – Motorists will be directed to travel on the new SH 99 westbound frontage road between Business 146 and Lee Drive.
- Overnight hours of Sunday, August 16 – A new traffic configuration will be put in place between Goose Lake and Wyoming Street.

### 146 Exit Closure

To implement some of the traffic switches described above, the 146 northbound exit ramp to Business 146 will be closed during the overnight hours (8PM – 5AM) of the following days:

- Wednesday, August 12
- Friday, August 14
- Sunday, August 16

### Wismer Drive Closure

During the evening of Wednesday, August 12, crews will be closing the roadway between the new SH 99 eastbound and westbound frontage roads at Wismer Drive. This closure will be in place for a few months while crews perform work on the new SH 99 bridge that will travel over Wismer Drive.

### IH-10 Bridge Beam Operations

The team is currently scheduled to set bridge beams over IH-10 during the overnight hours of Saturday, August 22. Details regarding traffic impacts will be released in the days ahead.

## Capitol & District Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or [district127.huberty@house.texas.gov](mailto:district127.huberty@house.texas.gov).

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